

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD
CITY OF STAMFORD
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2015
REGULAR MEETING**

Members Present:

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Louis Levine, Member
Stephen Wayne, Member
Richard Rosenfeld, Esq., Member
Bradford K. Spaulding, Alternate Member
Nathaniel Bowler, Alternate Member

Members Not Present:

Dr. Leigh Shemitz, Member

Staff Present:

Richard H. Talamelli, Environmental Planner
Pam Fausty, Environmental Analyst

The Regular Meeting, which was called to order by the Chair at 7:30 PM, was held in the Cafeteria, Fourth Floor, Stamford, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut, 06904-2152. Note that the meeting was relocated from the Safety Training Room situated on the Sixth Floor. The meeting was both audio and video recorded.

MINUTES:

APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS:

SITE PLAN REVIEWS:

SUBDIVISION REVIEWS:

ENFORCEMENT – STATUS REPORTS AND SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Budget Considerations:

Staff Member Talamelli addressed the Board on matters pertaining to the EPB's proposed Operating Budget for 2015-16. The EPB, under the provisions of the Ordinance, is expected to prepare and endorse a separate budget for its department. Mr. Talamelli noted that the proposed budget seeks to balance the Mayor's directive for continued fiscal responsibility with the demonstrated needs of the department. He reported that the EPB's proposed operating budget for fiscal year 2015-16 includes only minor increases in a few categories to cover proven "shortfalls" including postage/copying for

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required legal notice and mailings, and overtime pay to enable the Environmental Analyst to attend the minimum number of regularly scheduled meetings. The increase in postage and copying is generally attributed to the documentation and mailings necessary to maintain the City's good standing in the highly valued Community Rating System (CRS) Program

As part of the budget request, the agency carefully documented the Board's work levels, record of achievement, and budgetary needs. Projections indicate that the Board will continue to experience sizeable increases in the level of office activity, the number of large, complex developments, and the number of both mandated tasks and non-mandated activities of value and interest to the community. Growth in the private sector continues to increase, and is clearly supported by the fact that regional engineer/land use consulting firms have been growing their work force, at near unprecedented levels, to respond to the mounting demands for service. A substantial portion of the work generated by these consultants requires EPB review.

Current staffing levels are currently inadequate to service the needs of Stamford property owners in a timely, thorough and professional manner based on the still increasing trends. Accordingly, the budget proposal is accompanied by a request for a "program expansion" to provide an additional "Environmental Analyst."

Motion/Vote: Upon a Motion by Board Member Levine, the Board voted to **APPROVE** the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 as outlined on "Form E (Expense Request)," revised January 8, 2015.

In Favor: Stone, Levine, Wayne, Rosenfeld, and Bowler
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Not Voting: Spaulding

Upon a Motion by Board Member Levine, the Board voted to **APPROVE** a request for a program expansion to fund the salary and related overhead costs associated with and Environmental Analyst - EPB.

In Favor: Stone, Levine, Wayne, Rosenfeld, and Spaulding
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Not Voting: Bowler

ADJOURN:

Adjourn the Special Meeting of January 8, 2015.

There being no further business, the Board, upon a motion by Board Member Levine, voted to **ADJOURN** the Special Meeting of January 8, 2015.

In Favor: Stone, Levine, Wayne, Rosenfeld, and Bowler
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None

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Not Voting: Spaulding

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
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Minutes: Prepared from meeting notes taken by Richard H. Talamelli, Environmental Planner